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Viewing cable 09LIMA1053, FUJIMORI SENTENCED TO 7.5 YEARS FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09LIMA1053**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09LIMA1053	2009-07-22 16:32	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Lima

Appears in these articles:

<http://elcomercio.pe/>

VZCZCXYZ0000
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHPE #1053 2031632
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 221632Z JUL 09
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0916
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 2504
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 6723
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 8443
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 4005
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1452
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ JUL MONTEVIDEO 9786
RUEHQH/AMEMBASSY QUITO 2683
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 2522
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 001053

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/21/2019
TAGS: [KJUS](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PE](#)
SUBJECT: FUJIMORI SENTENCED TO 7.5 YEARS FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

REF: LIMA 517

Classified By: Amb. P. Michael McKinley for reasons 1.4(b) and (...)

id: 217720
date: 7/22/2009 16:32
refid: 09LIMA1053
origin: Embassy Lima
classification: CONFIDENTIAL
destination: 09LIMA517
header:
VZCZCXYZ0000
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHPE #1053 2031632
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 221632Z JUL 09
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0916
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 2504
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 6723
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 8443
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 4005
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1452
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ JUL MONTEVIDEO 9786
RUEHQ/AMEMBASSY QUITO 2683
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 2522
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL

----- header ends -----

CONFIDENTIAL LIMA 001053

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/21/2019
TAGS: [KJUS](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PE](#)
SUBJECT: FUJIMORI SENTENCED TO 7.5 YEARS FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

REF: LIMA 517

Classified By: Amb. P. Michael McKinley for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

¶1. (C) Summary. Former president Alberto Fujimori was sentenced on July 20 to seven years and six months for embezzlement charges, in connection with a \$15 million "severance" payment to then-intelligence chief Vladimiro Montesinos. Fujimori admitted guilt on the first day of the trial in order, say observers, to ensure a brief trial with no witnesses. While prosecutors argued that Fujimori's payment was meant to silence Montesinos about internal corruption, Fujimori claimed he paid off Montesinos to avert a coup. Prosecutors indicated they would open an additional corruption investigation based on Fujimori's re-payment of the \$15 million. End summary.

¶2. (C) Former president Alberto Fujimori was sentenced on July 20 to seven years and six months for embezzlement charges, for improperly paying then-intelligence chief Vladimiro Montesinos \$15 million in alleged severance pay. His sentence also calls for nearly \$1 million in reparations. This is Fujimori's third conviction. In Peru, sentences are served concurrently, so 25 years (from April's human rights conviction - see reftel) is the maximum time Fujimori would serve.

¶3. (C) Fujimori admitted guilt almost immediately during the first of only four sessions, thereby ensuring a brief trial. Most observers say this was a strategic move to avoid a lengthy trial and prevent witnesses from testifying, which could have revealed evidence of additional corruption and damaged daughter Keiko Fujimori's 2011 presidential bid.

¶4. (C) While prosecutors argued that Fujimori's payment (made in September 2000 just after the leak of videos

implicating Montesinos in a vast web of corruption) was meant to ensure Montesinos would not accuse other government officials of corruption, Fujimori claimed he paid Montesinos off under "unusual and extraordinary" circumstances in order to avert a coup and save the country. He also argued that no crime was committed because he repaid \$15 million to the state after 41 days, and the Peruvian people and state were not affected by the temporary loss.

¶5. (C) Fujimori's next trial will begin in September on three additional corruption charges. Observers expect Fujimori to be convicted on all counts. Prosecutors announced plans to open an additional corruption investigation into the allegedly illegal origin of the \$15 million Fujimori repaid to the government after the Montesinos payoff in 2000.

MCKINLEY

=====CABLE ENDS=====